

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/702,728

Examiner

Nga B. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

BRYMAN, EVAN LAWRENCE

Art Unit

3692

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the communication filed on June 14, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-28.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is the answer to the communication filed on June 14, 2007, which paper has been placed of record in the file.
2. Claims **1-28** are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter/Reasons for Allowance

3. Claims **1, 10** and **17** are allowed over the prior arts cited records.

The closest prior arts are:

1) Buchanan (US 5,950,179) discloses a computer-implemented method for issuing a credit card to a customer who has difficulty qualifying for unsecured credit or who requests a secured credit card. A card request input is received indicating that a customer has made a request for a credit card, and, in response, a credit card account with an initial credit limit is created for the customer. The initial credit limit is stored by computer. A credit card is issued to the customer before receipt of an indication of a deposit to a savings account to secure the credit card. A balance of the savings account is periodically monitored by computer for an initial deposit, and a new credit limit is computed when the initial deposit has been made. Buchanan also discloses electronically identifying an account for potential fraud based on an outstanding balance of the account to exceed a predetermined limit reviewing account transactions of the identified account to determine whether fraud has been made on the account.

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2) Gopinathan (US 5,819,226) discloses an automated system and method detects fraudulent transactions using a predictive model such as a neural network to evaluate individual customer accounts and identify potentially fraudulent transactions based on learned relationships among known variables. The system may also output reason codes indicating relative contributions of various variables to a particular result. The system periodically monitors its performance and redevelops the model when performance drops below a predetermined level.

Therefore, it is clear from the description of Buchanan's and Gopinathan's inventions that the prior arts do not considered the possibility of: restricting the identified account when it has been determined that check kiting has been made on the account, as included in claims 1, 10 and 17.

4. Claims (2-9, 26), (11-16, 27) and (18-25, 28), are allowed because they are dependent claims of the allowable independent claims 1, 10 and 17 above, in that order.

Conclusion

5. Claims **1-28** are allowed.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Nga B. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-6796. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 9:00AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kambiz Abdi can be reached on (571) 272-6702.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-3600.

7. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300 (for formal communication intended for entry),

or

(571) 273-0325 (for informal or draft communication, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Knox Building, 501 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA, First Floor (Receptionist).



NGA NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

September 1, 2007